Intelligence sharing by India, US. and UK on cross-border terrorism

219. SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India, U.S. and the UK are taking steps for intelligence sharing;

(b) if so, whether all the three countries have an assessment of Pakistan's pledges on cross-border terrorism;

(c) if so, whether Indian Army has pointed out that U.S. sensors won't plug infiltration;

(d) if so, whether accordingly to the Army, forces infiltration would continue in a highly sophisticated and undiscernible manner; and

(e) if so, whether in view of this CCS has taken a decision that no more peace moves would be taken until and unless Pakistan fully implement the pledge of ending cross-border infiltration ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) Strengthening intelligence sharing is a key objective of the bilateral joint working groups on counter-terrorism with USA and UK. As in the past, Government will continue to exchange information with USA and UK through existing institutional arrangements on Pakistan's role in cross-border terrorism in India, and in particular on the progress in the implementation of President Musharraf's pledge to permanently end cross-border terrorism.

(c) and (d) Government continually examines and deploys technology tools as part of its overall efforts to check infiltration of terrorism from Pakistan. Government is aware that a permanent end to infiltration will require Pakistan to dismantle the entire terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir and abjure the use of terrorism as an instrument of state policy against India.

(e) A permanent cessation by Pakistan of cross-border terrorism against India, in accordance with President Musharraf's public commitments of 12 January, and 27 May, 2002 as also his pledge conveyed to the international

community, is necessary for the diffusion of tension between India and Pakistan.

Funding to millitants by UK mosques

220. SHRI ABANI ROY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "UK mosques fund Jammu and Kashmir Militants" published in the Hindustan Times dated the 10th June, 2002;

(b) if so, whether the mosques in UK are funding to militants in Jammu and Kashmir valley;

(c) whether Government have taken up the matter with the UK Government to check such funding to militants; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the other steps Government propose to prevent such funding to militants ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. There are credible reports of continued fund raising in the UK by supporters of terrorist organizations operating in India under the garb of promoting humanitarin causes.

(c) and (d) The U.K. Government has been fully sensitized on this matter. The Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs has stated in Parliament that the "Police is investigating all credible allegations of fund raising for such groups and will take action when there is sufficient evidence to do so". Government will continue to pursue this matter at appropriate levels with the British authorities.